

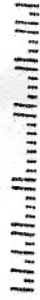
**UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

FOREST SUPERVISOR
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OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300



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FYI

Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Meeting

February 11, 1998

North Fork Conference Room 9:00 a.m.

Attendees:

Steering Group: Margaret Gorski, Cindy Lane, Bob Littlejohn

Committee: Carol Hennessey, Cheri Jones, Dennis Elliott, Linda Fee

Ad Hoc: Diana Jones, Kathy Tompson, Sandi McFarland, Ralph Braden, Deanna Riebe

NPS: Otis Halfmoon

OLD BUSINESS:

Project Initiation Letter

Margaret developed a newsletter which was reviewed with the following additions:

Logo Discussion -

- This will be used for the bicentennial celebration only
- The notes capture the intent - but there needs to be follow-up on the mechanisms to get materials produced. We need to research the best avenue.

Newsletter additions

- This is a internal newsletter
- We need to add regional information
- Deanna and Kathy will continue with the newsletter - it should be quarterly or as needed.

☐ **Cheri and Carol will explore the mechanisms for the logo and come up with 3 to 4 choices for prizes to be completed by Friday.**

Suggestions: \$50 NWIA book selection, 1 day time off award, 2 day trip with Harlan and Barb Opdahl (will check on price).

Web Site

Deanna will review every thing that is put on site for spelling and grammar.

☐ **Bob will be coordinator for Bicentennial with Sandi's help.**

Books and Brochures

Reminder about comments to Kathy and Cheri concerning the Highway 12 and motorway information sheets.

Planning Efforts

We need to finalize DFCs before we can proceed.

Road Maintenance

Need to purchase traffic counters.

☐ **Identify locations of traffic counters with Ralph - Carol, Dennis and Linda will work with Ralph.**

Pert Chart

- ☐ Go back through last four meeting notes to develop preliminary meeting task list. Diana

Interpretive Committee

Sandi, Diana, Carol, Cheri, and Linda.

Will follow work already completed by the Forest interpretive sign committee

- ☐ Committee will meet and establish roles.

Communication Plan

Deanna needs the following to complete the communications plan.

Expected time frame for tasks.

Key things expected to happen.

Start at date expected to happen (for events).

Look at expected audience and number.

Do the plan by year and begin with current year through the end of 1998.

Details will be built through the year.

Key contacts

- Other agencies
- Communities
- General public
- Other cooperators
- Internal - newsletter and front-liner training
- Others???

- ☐ Deanna needs targets - where we need to be by what time especially the community contacts.

- ☐ Deanna will draft a 1998 plan and possibility a 1999 plan by the 24th but will need a general direction for long term later. It will follow the following outline.

- Internal
- External
- Cooperators - Tribe, NPS, Outfitters
- Other bicentennial organizations - especially how we communicate with these groups.

- ☐ Need to work with the CEDA group.

Travelway Capacity Model

Ervin Brooks has developed a travel capacity model that will help us calculate carrying capacity - to get to vehicles per day.

Ralph looked at some segmentation differences than developed earlier, but tied more to intersections.

Ralph did some preliminary work on traffic counter locations.

We have five counters.

Need to keep sites established to determine trends and patterns.

May need some extra counters.

Status Reports

Bicentennial meeting January 29 in the Region by Keith Thurlkill for Forest updates.

- Announced that Margaret will be regional coordinator.
- Looked at range of activities on Forests. Clearwater was one of the most active.
- Salmon Forest has done a lot of work with use and capacity and may be a good group to coordinate with.
- Great Falls is focused on their center.

Get regional notes out to everyone.

☐ By the first of March we need to submit the Forest strategy and projects to be a part of the Regional Strategy.

Margaret's Updates

- Bicentennial is getting a lot of National attention.
- Jim has worked with Larry Craig and he is very supportive of a more aggressive role for the Forest Service. Especially in working with communities.
- Ken Burns film has raised the importance - especially with the President.
- Interpretive center in Great Falls will be completed in April and dedicated in July.
- This is receiving a lot of national attention also.
 - Big names are coming on July 5th for the grand opening and dedication.
 - Lewis and Clark Heritage Foundation annual meeting is the week before.
 - W.O. is realizing the importance due to congressional interest.
 - Conference call with WO - no one in the WO is assigned to this therefore the Northern Region will be taking the lead in the interim. BLM is actively pursuing funding for the Bicentennial. BLM in Montana has been brainstorming ideas and projects for over a year and putting them up at the national level.
 - Margaret will now fill a more national role to make sure the Northern Region is compatible with what is happening nationally.
 - The Regional strategy will be used as a national response.
 - This document is draft and will change over time.
 - There is a regional plan for Lewis and Clark Bicentennial that was written in 1988, which includes a sign plan that has been the sideboards for sign design since that time.
 - Larry Craig has been invited to visit the Motorway this summer to give him a better perspective on the capabilities of the resource to accommodate use.
 - We will need to meld our plans with the Tribe and NPS for project implementation.

Meeting Updates:

- February 24 - Mtg. with NRCS to discuss Bicentennial with a special interest in Lolo Pass - Chuck Raddon is attending and Dennis Elliott will discuss Lolo Pass.
- March 5 - Idaho Travel Association in Moscow.
- March 5 Clearwater/Snake Bicentennial Meeting in Lewiston - Linda.

- March 8 & 9 (?) - Governor's Bicentennial Committee Meeting in Boise.
- April 2 - Regional Bicentennial Meeting in Great Falls - Linda.
- April 2 - Traveler's Rest Chapter of Lewis and Clark Foundation in Lolo community center - Margaret is scheduled to speak about the Forest's plans, but with new role she will probably speak about regional perspective and Forest may want to send a representative. This group meets first Thursday of every month.
- April 27 & 28 - National Bicentennial Council in Bismark - Linda
- May 6 - 8 - Governor's Conference in Boise.
- June 29 - July 3 - National Lewis and Clark Heritage Foundation's annual meeting in Great Falls.
- July 5 - Grand opening and dedication of Great Falls center - Jim, Cindy and Linda will attend.

NEW BUSINESS:

Outline Items 1 - 3

- Margaret's outline is based on the draft Lolo Trail System Guidelines from 1992.
- It uses the thinking that there are three important eras which becomes complicated because they overlap.

Overall Management Goals

- We may need to put timing side boards - may not be applicable to carry through time.
- Need to develop the assumptions - this could be dynamic across time i.e. during hunting season.
- We need to identify stakeholders.
- Accept goals as stated with the following changes.
Goal one remove end of sentence following "resource".
Look at use of words such as "maximize"

DFCs

- ☐ Margaret will finish writing from this outline.

Recreation facilities - Dispersed Camping

- Maintain current development level
- No camping in identified areas.
- Camping is self-limiting - governed by existing parking and camping areas.
- Camping areas are free from human waste and garbage - Maintain with the Pack it in/ Pack it out program.
- Vegetation will not be significantly impacted.
- Minimize new development and improvements (toilets) - free of user-made toilets, tables, chairs and other structures

Practices:

- Area closures / signing of areas.

- Supervisors order closing corridor to firewood gathering except dead and down for camping use.
- Monitoring
- Sanitation - Porta-potty/Trenches/Compost - Minimize developed toilet placement.

Trails - Three historic routes

- Mechanized / Motorized use limited to road surface.
- Trailhead capacity self-limiting - discourage adjacent roadside parking.
- Optimize trail experience off 500 road for hikers and stock users.
- Do not develop identified segments of the ancient Buffalo Trail. Do not open any trail that would compromise integrity of ancient Buffalo Trail.
- Identified areas will not have negative stock impacts.
- Provide rustic, historical adventure experience for trail users.

Practices:

- Identify area where stock will be controlled.
- Trail maintenance standards may differ. (Develop a trail maintenance plan.)
- Signing and closures.

Roads

- Road 500 - Maintain condition consistent with 1930s era (pull write-up from Ralph's notes. We will not surface. No log haul from Pete Forks to Papoose.
- Access Roads - Maintain to design standards, but minimize potential for recreation and commercial traffic conflict.
- Provide for historical adventure experience (implementation of actions to provide for "appropriate" carrying capacity.

Practices:

- Improve and increase turn-outs consistent with DFCs.
- Traffic counters and monitoring. (What do people expect/experience?)
- Identify carrying capacity "Trip - Point"
- Develop road maintenance plan.

Interpretation

- Interpretation and information
- Information - directional information and interpretive site.
- Consistent design palette will be designed and used along Lewis and Clark (Lolo Trail System - includes Highway 12 and Road 500 connectors).
- Signing will be minimized along ridge-top route and emulate historic era
 - Directional signing at junctions to route the user to the next junction.
 - Directional signing will only be used to assist visitors in finding the 500 road. Once on the ridge top, directional signing will be minimized and used only for assurance purposed. (Directional signing should be limited to key junctions with no mileage markers.)

- Emphasize the historic importance of the Lolo Trail route to human uses throughout history. Balance the Lewis and Clark story with the Nez Perce story. Interpret other National Forest resources and issues only in ways that connect to the historic and cultural significance of the area.
- The interpretation of the Lolo Trail will be consistent and connected with the story told at Lolo Pass.
- All interpretive signs and brochures will have a style consistent with the historic significance and primitive atmosphere of the site.
- Interpretation will emphasize the use of written and audio media in order to minimize signs on the trail.

Practices:

- Develop design palette
- Logo (use of Lewis and Clark highway logo)
- Interpretive plan development

Special Use Coordination

- IOGLB: perspective on lots of coming application.

☐ **Cindy and Dennis will give Dean "heads-up" and will follow-up with Dean on this issue.**

Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Project Submittals:

In addition to identified projects consider the following project list:

- VIS center signing
- Educational boxes
- Look at all non-traditional projects (review blue book)
- Think Big!!!

Front Kiosk

For the proposed panel - use general Lewis and Clark information - Not Bicentennial specific information.